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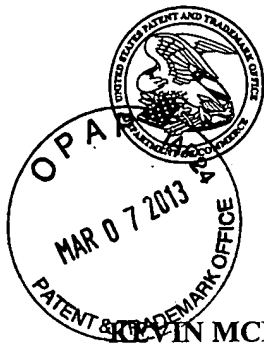
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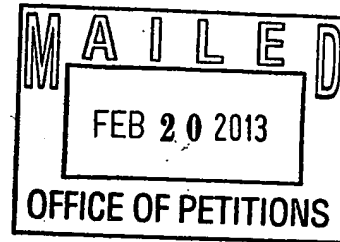


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In re Patent No. 6,024,471  
Issue Date: February 15, 2000  
Application No. 08/947,546  
Filed: October 11, 1997

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed July 12, 2012, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on February 16, 2012 for failure to pay the seven and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Terri Johnson at (571) 272-2991.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

/Terri Johnson/  
Terri Johnson  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions